

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 05496 031258Z

43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07

JUSE-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 /100 W

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R 022222Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1052

INFO AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EC

SUBJECT: GULF CONFIRMS RUMORS OF "RUTH" SUIT; REPUBLICAN UNION
DENOUNCES GULF ACTION

REF: QUITO 5426

1. OFFICIALS OF ECUADOREAN GULF CONFIRMED SUIT AGAINST ATLANTIC RICHFIELD, ACCORDING TO QUITO'S LEADING DAILY "EL COMERCIO" JULY 31. UNNAMED OFFICIALS SAID GULF ACTION WAS NOT AN EMBARGO BUT RATHER A "JUDICIAL COMPLAINT" AGAINST ARCO. TEXACO OFFICIALS CONTACTED SAID THEIR COMPANY WAS NOT INVOLVED IN THE SUIT.

2. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENTS, THE REPUBLICAN UNION, A RECENTLY FORMED POLITICAL GROUP, DEMANDED THAT GULF COMPENSATE THE GOE FOR DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE "RUTH" SUIT. THE REPUBLICAN UNION STATEMENT, REPRINTED IN AUGUST 2 "EL COMERCIO," CLAIMED THAT GULF SUIT "INTERNATIONALLY DISCREDITS THE HONOR, SERIOUSNESS, AND CREDIT OF OUR COUNTRY. THIS ACTION
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PAGE 02 QUITO 05496 031258Z

IS TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE TO ECUADOREANS." THE STATEMENT

CONTINUES THAT GULF HAS REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE THE LEGAL
AUTHORITY OF ECUADOREAN COURTS, ALTHOUGH CONTRACTS BETWEEN
THE GOE AND FOREIGNERS DISALLOW CONTROL BY FOREIGN JURIS-
DICTION.

3. COMMENT: LOCAL GULF MANAGER JACK O'BRIEN SAID HE DID NOT
"CONFIRM" GULF SUIT AGAINST ATLANTIC RICHFIELD. BUT, HE SAID,
HE TOLD "EL COMERCIO" REPORTER THAT HE HAD NO OFFICIAL WORD
OF GULF SUIT, ALTHOUGH HE UNDERSTOOD SOME ACTION HAD BEEN
TAKEN. HE ALSO REFERRED "EL COMERCIO" TO DECREE 285--WHICH
WAS REPRINTED IN FULL IN THE ARTICLE.
BLOOMFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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